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EXAMINER

PHAM, KHANH B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2177

15

DATE MAILED: 03/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/575,403

Applicant(s)

CHANNEY ET AL.

Examiner

Khanh B. Pham

Art Unit

2177

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 December 2004.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed December 23, 2004 has been entered. Claims 1, 9, 11, 13, 17, 19, 24-27, 30, and 34 have been amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. **Claims 1-16, 24-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over Padwick et al. ("Using Microsoft Outlook 2000"), hereinafter "Padwick" and in view of Srivastava et al. (US 6,549,922 B1), hereinafter "Srivastava".

As per claim 1, Padwick discloses a method for organizing and grouping metadata for display during operation of a program, the method comprising:

- "during the operation of the program, receiving a selection from a user of a category property set from a plurality of category property sets, wherein each of the category property sets defines the data fields for a selected category of content files" (page 949, steps 1-3 and Fig. 38.6)
- "during the operation of the program, receiving a selection from the user of a first display set that defines a first set of metadata" (page 949, step 4)

- “during the operation of the program, receiving instructions from the user that at least a portion of the set of category property set fields are related to the first display set” (Page 950, Fig. 38.7);
- “during the operation of the program, receiving a selection from the user of a second display set that defines a second set of metadata” (Pages 953-954: “Changing the Fields Displayed in a View” section and Fig. 38.6)
- “during the operation of the program, receiving instructions from a user that designate that at least a portion of the set of category property set fields are related to the second display” (Pages 955-956, “Adding a Field to a view” section and Fig. 38.7); and
- “during the operation of the program, displaying at least a portion of the first or second display set fields” at Figs. 38.8.

Padwick teaches organizing and grouping database fields for Outlook items such as email messages or contact lists, but does not explicitly teaches organizing and grouping “data fields for a selected genre of audio or video content files”. However, Srivastava teaches a method for organizing “data fields for a selected genre of audio and video content files” at Col. 6 lines 1-7. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine Padwick and Srivastava’s teaching, because “the metadata which is stored in the database in this fashion may then be accessed by application programs in standard ways to perform data management, search, retrieval and playback functions” as suggested by Srivastava at Col. 2 lines 4-7.

As per claim 2, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 1 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “a property set field may be related to more than one display set” at pages 947-948.

As per claim 3, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 1 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “a display set may be related to more than one property set field” at pages 947-948.

As per claim 4, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 1 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “selecting a set of fields of metadata includes:

- “creating new fields of metadata” at Page 958, “Creating a New Field” section;
- “using existing field of metadata” at Page 958, Fig. 38.13;
- “creating new fields of metadata and using existing fields of metadata” at Page 958.

As per claim 5, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 1 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “selecting a property set includes: creating a new property set; or using an existing property set” at Page 950, Fig. 38.7.

As per claim 6, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 1 as discussed above. Srivastava also teaches: “selecting a first display set includes: “creating a new display set or using an existing display set” at Col. 6 lines 15-20.

As per claim 7, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 1 as discussed above. Srivastava teaches: “selecting a second display set includes: “creating a new display set; or using an existing display set” at Col. 6 lines 15-20.

As per claim 8, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 1 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “storing at least one of the set of field of metadata, the property set, the set of property fields, the first display set, the set of first display set field, the second display grouping, or the set of second display set field in a database” at Page 950, Fig. 38.7.

As per claim 9, Padwick teaches a method for organizing metadata during the operation of a program comprising:

- “in response to a user request, creating a category property set, wherein each of the category property sets defines the data fields for a selected category of content files” at Pages 949-950, Figs. 38.6 and 38.7;
- “selecting a set of metadata fields related to the category property set” at page 950, Fig. 38.7;
- “creating a set of display grouping” at page 951, Fig. 38.8;
- “grouping the selected set of metadata fields into at least one of the display groupings to form metadata field grouping” at Page 959, “Grouping Items” section.

Padwick teaches organizing and grouping database fields for Outlook items such as email messages or contact lists, but does not explicitly teaches organizing and grouping “data fields for a selected genre of audio or video content files”. However, Srivastava teaches a method for organizing “data fields for a selected genre of audio and video content files” at Col. 6 lines 1-7. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine Padwick and

Srivastava's teaching, because "the metadata which is stored in the database in this fashion may then be accessed by application programs in standard ways to perform data management, search, retrieval and playback functions" as suggested by Srivastava at Col. 2 lines 4-7

As per claim 10, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 9 as discussed above. Padwick further teaches: "storing the property set, the set of display groupings, and the metadata field grouping in a database" at Page 950, Fig. 38.7.

As per claim 11, Padwick teaches a method for dynamically display a set of metadata comprising:

- "identifying a category property set, wherein the category property set is associated with a set of display groupings and a set of metadata fields wherein the metadata fields are related to at least one of the display groupings" at Pages 949-950;
- "dynamically generating a display structure comprising display grouping structures that are based at least in part upon the set of display groupings" at Page 951, Fig. 38.8;
- "dynamically populating the display groupings with metadata field structures" at Page 962, "Visually Setting up Grouping" section;
- "dynamically populating the metadata field structures with the related metadata field data, and display the display structure" at page 963, Figs. 38.19 – 38.20.

Padwick teaches displaying a set of metadata comprises database fields for Outlook items such as email messages or contact lists, but does not explicitly teaches organizing and grouping “a set of data fields associated with a genre of audio or video content files”. However, Srivastava teaches a method for displaying “a set of data fields associated with a genre of audio and video content files” at Col. 6 lines 1-7 and Fig. 2. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine Padwick and Srivastava's teaching, so that “a song can be summarized by grouping together previously extracted or collected metadata, such as the performer's name, the song title, and a song clip. Such summaries are especially useful for quick browsing of media catalogs” as suggested by Srivastava at Col. 7 lines 50-55.

As per claim 12, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 11 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “receiving a set of metadata field data includes: “sending a request for metadata field data to a metadata database, and receiving a set of metadata field data from the metadata database related to the request” at Page 950, Fig. 38.7.

As per claim 13, Padwick teaches a method for allowing a user to edit metadata using a graphical user interface comprising:

- “querying a metadata database for a set of metadata” at Page 950, Fig. 38.7;

- “dynamically displaying the set of metadata in a display window in a graphic user interface wherein the set of metadata data is organized into category sets and display window groups” at Fig. 38.7;
- “receiving a request from a user to alter the type of the displayed metadata data” Page 950, “Modifying a View” section;
- “processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data, updating the display of the metadata data in the display window” at Pages 950-954.

Padwick teaches a method for editing metadata comprises database fields for Outlook items such as email messages or contact lists, but does not explicitly teaches editing “a set of data fields associated with a genre of audio or video content files”. However, Srivastava teaches a method for displaying “a set of data fields associated with a genre of audio and video content files” at Col. 6 lines 1-7 and Fig. 2. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine Padwick and Srivastava's teaching, so that “a song can be summarized by grouping together previously extracted or collected metadata, such as the performer's name, the song title, and a song clip. Such summaries are especially useful for quick browsing of media catalogs” as suggested by Srivastava at Col. 7 lines 50-55.

As per claim 14, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 13 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data includes updating the corresponding metadata data in the metadata database” at page 953, “Changing the Fields Displayed in a View” section.

As per claim 15, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 13 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data includes logging the request in a metadata database update log” at pages 971, “Resetting a view to its original state”.

As per claim 16, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 13 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data includes processing the request to alter related metadata data that is not displayed” at page 973, Fig. 38.31.

As per claim 24, Padwick teaches a method of customize the display of metadata comprising:

- “identifying a category that classifies at least one content file, wherein the category is associated with a plurality of type of metadata files, and wherein each of types of metadata data fields has associated metadata” at Pages 947-950;
- “providing an interface for allowing a user to modify the metadata and the types of metadata field that are associated with the category” at Pages 949-950, Figs. 38.6 – 38.7;
- “in response to user selection, displaying the metadata that is associated with the identified category” at page 950, Fig. 38.7.

Padwick teaches customizing the display for Outlook items such as email messages or contact lists, but does not explicitly teaches customizing the display for “genre of audio or video content file”. However, Srivastava teaches a method for customizing “data fields for a selected genre of audio and video content files” at Col. 6

lines 1-7. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine Padwick and Srivastava's teaching, because "the metadata which is stored in the database in this fashion may then be accessed by application programs in standard ways to perform data management, search, retrieval and playback functions" as suggested by Srivastava at Col. 2 lines 4-7.

As per claim 25, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 24 as discussed above. Srivastava teaches: "the category identifies a genre of music" at Col. 5 lines 27-67.

As per claim 26, Padwick and Srivastava teaches the method of claim 24 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: "in response to request from the user, adding a new type of metadata field" at page 955, "Adding a Field to a View" section.

As per claim 27, Padwick teaches a method for organizing and grouping metadata comprising:

- "selecting, via at least one graphical interface, a category property of the set of fields of metadata as related to the category sets" at Page 949, Fig. 38.6;
- "designating, via at least one graphical interface, at least a portion of the set of fields of metadata as related to the category property set to create a set of property set fields" at Page 950, Fig. 38.7;
- "selecting, via at least one graphical interface, a first display set" at Page 949, steps 1-3;

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- “designating, via at least one graphical interface, at least a portion of the set of category property set fields as related to the first display set to create a set of first display set fields” at Fig. 38.7;
- “selecting, via at least one graphical interface, a second display set, designating, via at least one graphical interface, at least a portion of the set of category property set fields as related to the second display set to create a set of second display set fields” at Fig. 38.7;
- “in response to selecting the category property set, displaying at least a portion of the first and second display set fields” at page 951, Fig. 38.8.

Padwick teaches organizing and grouping database fields for Outlook items such as email messages or contact lists, but does not explicitly teaches organizing and grouping “data fields for a selected genre of audio or video content files”. However, Srivastava teaches a method for organizing “data fields for a selected genre of audio and video content files” at Col. 6 lines 1-7. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine Padwick and Srivastava’s teaching, because “the metadata which is stored in the database in this fashion may then be accessed by application programs in standard ways to perform data management, search, retrieval and playback functions” as suggested by Srivastava at Col. 2 lines 4-7.

As per claim 28, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 27 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “a property set field is related to more than one display set” at pages 947-948.

As per claim 29, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claim 27 as discussed above. Padwick also teaches: “a display set is related to more than one property set field” at pages 947-948.

As per claims 30, 34, Padwick teaches a method of modifying the display groups of metadata comprising:

- “Providing a graphical user interface for allowing a user to create a type of data field to a display group that identifies metadata that is to be displayed” at Pages 950, Fig. 38.7;
- “providing a graphical user interface for allowing a user to provide data for the added data type” at page 958, Fig. 38.14;
- “displaying the display group having the added type of data field and the provided data for the added data type” at Figs. 38.19 – 38.20.

Padwick does not explicitly teaches that the metadata that is to be displayed with respect to a plurality of genres of media “. However, Srivastava teaches a method for displaying “metadata with respect to a plurality of genres of media” at Fig. 2 and Col. 5 lines 27-67. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine Padwick and Srivastava’s teaching, because “the metadata which is stored in the database in this fashion may then be accessed by application programs in standard ways to perform data management, search, retrieval and playback functions” as suggested by Srivastava at Col. 2 lines 4-7.

As per claims 31, 35, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claims 30 and 34 as stated above. Srivastava also teaches: "the added data field identifies a track name" at Cols. 7-8.

As per claims 32, 36, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claims 30, 34 as stated above. Srivastava also teaches: "the added data field describes a characteristic of an item of music" at Col. 7 lines 30-55.

As per claim 33, 37, Padwick and Srivastava teach the method of claims 30, 34 as stated above. Padwick also teaches: "graphical user interface allows the user to remove data field from the display group" at page 950, Fig. 38.7.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. **Claims 17-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)** as being anticipated by Srivastava et al. (US 6,549,922 B1).

As per claim 17, Srivastava teaches a metadata editor system comprising;

- “a metadata organization database configured to store category and property information about metadata relating to one or more audio or video content files” at Col. 2 lines 2-7;
- “a graphical user interface display module configured to display subsets of the metadata wherein the subsets of metadata are organized by display groups, and wherein the types of fields in the display groups are configurable by a user” at Fig. 2 and Col. 4 lines 14-22.

As per claim 18, Srivastava teaches the method of claim 17, further comprises “a metadata update module configured to receive updates to the metadata from a user, send the updates to the metadata database, and send the updates to the graphical user interface displayed module” at Col. 7 lines 27-47.

As per claim 19, Srivastava teaches a metadata editor system comprising:

- “means for storing metadata organization data wherein the metadata organization data includes groupings that define subsets of metadata as well as display sets, each subset of metadata associated with one or more genres of audio or video files” at Col. 5 lines 27-67 and Fig. 2;
- “means for displaying subsets of metadata wherein the subsets of metadata are organized by display set and wherein the type of fields in the display groups are configurable by a user” at Fig. 2 and Col. 7 lines 27-47.

As per claim 20, Srivastava teaches the metadata editor system of claim 17, additionally comprising “a display for displaying the metadata” at Fig. 2.

As per claim 21, Srivastava teaches the metadata editor system of claim 17, additionally comprising “a mouse for selecting the metadata” at Col. 7 lines 27-47.

As per claim 22, Srivastava teaches the metadata editor system of claim 19, additionally comprising “a display for displaying the metadata” at Fig. 2.

As per claim 23, Srivastava teaches the metadata editor system of claim 19, additionally comprising “a mouse for selecting the metadata” at Col. 7 lines 27-47.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-37 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh B. Pham whose telephone number is (703) 308-7299. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on (703) 305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Khanh B. Pham
Examiner
Art Unit 2177

KBP
March 17, 2004


JEAN R. HOMERE
PRIMARY EXAMINER